

# One More New Species of *Iris* L. from Uzbekistan

**KHASSANOV F.O.\***, **RAKHIMOVA N.**, & **ACHILOVA N.**

**Abstract:** Description of a new *Iris* species found in the southern part of Uzbekistan (nearby the border with Afghanistan) is given.

**Zusammenfassung:** Eine neue *Iris*-Art aus dem südlichen Teil Usbekistans nahe der Grenze zu Afghanistan wird beschrieben.

**Key words:** Taxonomy, *Iris*, Uzbekistan.

\* Correspondence to: fkhasanov1@mail.ru

## Introduction

It was already underlined (KHASSANOV et al. 2013), that the area of Uzbekistan as a part of Middle Asia could be treated as one of the largest hotspots of the genus *Iris*. Unfortunately, VVEDENSKY (1971) did not make a sense of the form of inner tepals, because they are changing their upper part during the flowering stage. Moreover, dried material never shows original forms and sizes of the geophytic flowers.

## Results and Discussion

The plants of newly described *Iris victoris* F. O. KHASS., U. KHUZH. & N. RAKHIMOVA were carefully studied in the classical location in March 2014. Surprisingly, the plants in the full flowering stage had the bifurcated inner tepals (Fig. 1). Therefore, this new character must be emended to the first description of *I. victoris*.

Ab *I. svetlanae* (VVED.) F.O. KHASS. tepalis inferiorum minoribus et dichotomis (nec elangato-rhomboideis) differt.

Kelif-Sherabad range is running for about 120 km from the south (Amudarja river) to the north (southern slopes of Bajssun mountains). Here we found the plants resembling *I. svetlanae*, but having curved leaves. These plants also differed from the above mentioned species by the form and sizes of the inner tepals, as well as large prolonged wings of the outer tepals. Each wing was equal to the style blades and in the full flowering stage they reached one to another. Below the description of the new *Iris* sp. is given.

***Iris petri* F.O. KHASS., N. RAKHIMOVA & N. ACHILOVA, sp. nov. (subgenus *Scorpiris* SPACH) (Fig. 2)**

**Type:** Uzbekistan. Kelif-Sherabad range; 25 km eastern town Bajssun, grey clays; N 38°33'50,84", E 67°26'18,58"; 860 m. s. l.; 18.3.2014; F.O. Khassanov et al. (TASH, isotype MBG).

Ab *I. victoris* F. O. KHASS. et al. tepalis inferiorum minoribus et claviformibus (nec dichotomis) differt. Ab *I. svetlanae* (VVED.) F.O. KHASS. auriculis duplo latioribus et tepalis inferiorum minoribus et claviformibus (nec elangato-rhomboideis) differt.

Habitat in collibus gypsaceis prope Baissun (Asia Media, Pami-Alaj).

Species in honorem Prof. Dr. Peter Raven denominata est.

Bulb ovate, about 1 cm width. Tunics papraceous, greish. Stem 5-10 cm high. Leaves 3-6, connivent, crescent, acute, with whitish margins, lowest 1-2 cm width, curved. Flowers yellow, 1 (2); tube 2-3 cm long. Outer tepals 4-4.5 cm long with large (up to 2 cm) wings and 2 greenish stripes; claws reniformed, 1.5-1.8 cm long, 2-2.4 cm width; crests yellow, crenated. Inner tepals 0.7-1.0 cm long, above claviform, obtuse. Style blades yellow, above divided and shorter than outer tepals.

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Fig. 1: Flower of *Iris victoris*.



Fig. 2: Flower of *Iris petri*, sp. nov.

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Dr. Furkat O. KHASSANOV  
 Dr. Nargiza RAKHIMOVA  
 SPC Botanika, Academy of Sciences  
 F. Khodzhaeva, 32  
 700143, Tashkent  
 Republic of Uzbekistan

Nargiza Achilova  
 Dzhizzak Pedagogical Institute